

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1347
ANSWERED ON:11.03.2005
COMPENSATION PAID BY WCL
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether some complaints from people for providing suitable compensation and jobs to the projects affected people are being made after the acquisition of their land for various coal mines projects including Western Coalfields Ltd.;
- (b) if so, the arrangement made for the disposal of claims of project affected people in regard to providing suitable compensation and jobs;
- (c) the action taken by the coal companies including Western Coalfields Ltd. for disposal of the pending claims of certain project affected people;
- (d) whether any direction has been issued by the Government to coal companies to provide relief to project affected people immediately; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO)

(a) & (b) Yes, complaints are received from time to time regarding compensation for land acquired by subsidiary companies of Coal India including Western Coalfields Limited (WCL). Complaints are also received regarding provision of employment in certain cases against acquisition of land.

Land is acquired for coal mining projects under Land Acquisition Act, 1894 and Coal Bearing Areas (Acquisition and Development) Act, 1957. Compensation of land under Land Acquisition Act is assessed by District Authorities. The assessed / demanded amount is deposited with State Authorities by coal companies and paid to land owner/oustees by the District Authority.

Compensation for land & other interest acquired under Coal Bearing Areas (A & D) Act, 1957 is assessed by coal company as per provision of the Act and payment is made after obtaining competent approval of Govt. of India.

However, whenever interested tenants whose land is acquired feel that the awarded compensation is inadequate, the compensation is received/accepted by them under protest and they may prefer appeal to Court for land acquired under Land Acquisition Act, 1894 and to Special Tribunal/tribunals set up by Central Govt for land acquired under Coal Bearing Areas (A&D) Act, 1957 for deciding the fair amount of compensation. The order of the Court/Tribunal is implemented by the subsidiary companies.

Employment or monetary compensation in lieu of employment is given to project affected persons or his dependents as per existing Resettlement & Rehabilitation Policy (R&R Policy) in vogue in subsidiary companies of Coal India Ltd. including WCL.

Disputes regarding jobs for which complaints are also received arise due to (i) Non submission of proper documents by the claimants, (ii) Not handing over the vacant possession of the acquired/purchased land, (iii) Ownership dispute, (iv) Family dispute (v) Demanding employment for Non - entitled cases, (vi) Litigation/Court Cases with regard to right title and interest over the property.

(c) Providing compensation for land acquired for coal projects and jobs to the land loser is a continuous process and claims of persons have to be authenticated / verified before settlement. Certain claims remain in pipeline too.

However, whenever such case is brought to notice of coal company appropriate action, after verification, of the claim is taken. Subsidiary companies make all efforts to settle the case within the minimum possible time so that minimum hardship is caused to project affected person.

(d) As stated above in reply at (a) & (b) relief is already being provided.

(e) In view of (d) above, question does not arise.